



SENATOR RUNNER'S WEEK IN REVIEW

A WEEKLY REVIEW THAT WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED AND UP-TO-DATE



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Wireless Amber Alerts

This week, the Wireless Association and law enforcement unveiled an extension of the Amber Alert program – Wireless Amber Alerts. The new Wireless Amber Alerts is a voluntary feature that can be received by cell phone subscribers via a text message. This expansion will cast a wider net of communication in order to rescue an abducted child.

To sign up to receive Wireless Amber Alerts, you can go to www.wirelessamberalerts.org. You can choose up to five areas that you are interested in receiving alerts from. After you sign up, if there is an Amber Alert activated in one of your interested regions, you will receive a free text message providing you all of the critical information.

History of Amber Alert

Initially, the Amber Alert program originated in Texas in 1996 after 9-year-old Amber Hagerman was abducted and murdered. In 2002, a constituent brought this program to my attention and requested that California implement it. We were able to act quickly and by July 2002, the Amber Alert system was established statewide in California.

Since its enactment, there have been 77 Amber Alerts with the safe recovery of 101 children. The Amber Alert system does not cost additional taxpayer money and was implemented with existing resources, and the new Wireless Amber Alerts will also be using existing resources. The success rate of the Amber Alert program has exceeded all expectations with its success in recovering abducted children.

One of the benefits of the Amber Alert system is how quickly one can be issued to notify the public critical information to lead to a child's recovery. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, 74 percent of children who were abducted and later found murdered were killed within three hours of being taken.

An Amber Alert will activate the Emergency Alert System which pre-empts radio and television broadcasts to provide information to the public immediately. Law enforcement agencies ensure the following conditions are met before activating an Amber Alert:

News of the Week

[Wireless Amber Alerts Unveiled](#)

[Millions Come In from Prop 42 for Local Roads in San Bernardino County](#)

[Prop 42 Transportation Dollars Come In for Cities in Antelope Valley](#)

[Villaraigosa Wins Mayor's Race](#)

[BRAC Report is Good News for Many in California](#)

[Tom Ristau is Tapped as Fillmore's Next City Manager](#)

[Runner Commends Governor's Proposal to Repay VLF Loans Back to Cities and Counties](#)

[Briefing Report: Tied-House Laws](#)

- May only be activated by law enforcement agencies
- Intended only for the most serious, time-critical child abduction cases
- Not intended for cases involving runaways or parental abduction, except in life-threatening situations.

What can you do to help?

- If you witness a child abduction, contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911 immediately.
- If you hear an Amber Alert, watch for the child, suspect and vehicle described in the alert. Immediately report any sightings by calling 911 or the telephone number included with the alert.
- Consider signing up to receive Wireless Amber Alerts. The more the community gets involved with finding abducted children, the more children will be safely returned to their families.
- To learn more about Wireless Amber Alerts or to sign up to receive these critical alerts, please visit, www.wirelessamberalerts.org.

If you would like to contact Senator Runner, please click here: [Email](#) - [Website](#)

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